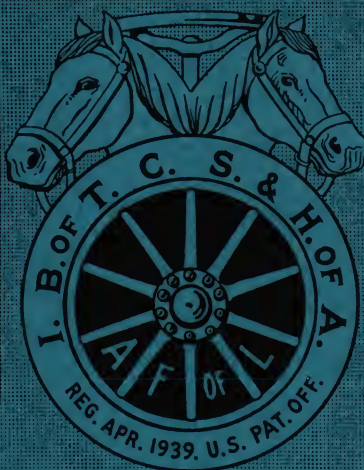


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FEBRUARY, 1940

Official Magazine
**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
TEAMSTERS - CHAUFFEURS
STABLEMEN & HELPERS
of AMERICA**



NOTICE

WILL all my good, kind friends in our unions kindly accept this message as an acknowledgment and an expression of my gratefulness for their messages of good will sent to me during the Christmas holidays? I received hundreds of those messages from our local representatives, and I ask them to kindly forgive me for not answering individually and personally, and to accept this statement in grateful appreciation of their kind consideration for the Editor and President of the International Union.

IT SHOULD BE distinctly understood that the Editor of this monthly Journal is employed by and elected by the membership of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. He endeavors to convey to the general membership, through his writings each month, conditions as he sees them. It would be a willful waste of the funds of the International Union to publish the magazine and fill it with a lot of old, stale clippings from other publications, items which have perhaps been read by the membership weeks before.

Our Journal is mailed to the homes of nearly 400,000 of our members and their families each month, free of charge. It is one of the mediums we have of conveying information to our people, with an analysis based on our observations due to the opportunities the writer has of contacting and traveling and in other ways receiving and obtaining information. If you are a paid-up member in good standing each month in your local union and you are not receiving the Journal, then it is your fault for not insisting that the Secretary of the local union send your name in to Headquarters; and if you change your address you should also see that we are notified of the change through some officer of your local union. When you finish reading the Journal, you are free to hand it over to someone else if you desire. If you know of anyone receiving it who is not a member in good standing of our Union, kindly report it to us at once. It costs money to print, prepare and mail your Journal. Save us what you can.

MANY of us have a false idea of our own importance. The biggest men I have ever met in life were the most humble and the easiest to talk with. Only those who are shallow and vain try to strut their authority when there is no need of being forceful.

● OFFICIAL MAGAZINE ●

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD of TEAMSTERS, CHAUFFEURS STABLEMEN AND HELPERS

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Daniel J. Tobin, Editor

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Business Should Stop Whining

H. W. Prentiss, Jr., new president of
the National Association of Manufac-
turers, tells the newspapers that Uncle
Sam's budget "may be easily bal-
anced" without an increase in taxes,
and that all that stands between the
unemployed and lucrative jobs is "the
lack of sympathy for business" dis-
played by those in power in Wash-
ington.

Mr. Prentiss is president of a cork
company, but the newspapers al-
ways reverentially refer to him as "a
scholar." He may be a scholar, but it
is unfortunate that he uses his erudi-
tion to convince business men they are
the victims of "New Deal" persecu-
tion, and that the nation's financial
troubles may be met by a mere turn of
the wrist.

The fact is that during the last
seven years the Roosevelt administra-
tion has done more for business than
it has for either the farmers or the
workers. To prove that, it is only
necessary to consider the condition of
business when Roosevelt came in, in
March, 1933, and its condition today.
Mr. Prentiss' own corporation would
probably afford a fine example.

Roosevelt has done much for the
farmers and the workers, and they
are grateful. But business, which was
on its knees frantically begging for
help in 1933, and got it in generous
measure, continues to whine. Schol-
arly Mr. Prentiss should take a more
enlightened attitude.—*Labor*.



EDITORIAL



(By DANIEL J. TOBIN)

WE are not at all worried about what other people outside our organization think about our expressions or our writings. Publicity is worth the price of adverse criticism; to say nothing in these crucial times, as many Labor men are doing, is not fulfilling the duties of a Labor official, and in many instances it is due to either ignorance or cowardice. The necessity for fighting for the preservation of the Labor Movement is more vital now than at any time in the last thirty years, because the forces of reaction are due to turn against us. The Labor Movement is destroyed in most of the countries of the world. That includes the Americas, north and south of the United States. If the war continues for two years from now what is left of the Labor Movement in European countries will be destroyed because of the economic destruction due to war. That's why we insist that bickerings and misunderstandings and divisions within the Labor Movement of America must be abolished, must be settled, must be eliminated, if we are to preserve the Labor Movement of the United States, and preserve and maintain the unions to which we have given our lives, the unions for which men have died. Only by protecting and establishing unity within our organizations we may be able to hold something like our present working conditions. Only those who close their eyes or through their ignorance are blind to world conditions, can fail to see that with the destruction of real values in European countries, no matter who wins the war, the economic conditions of those countries will be destroyed. England is the second richest country in the world, and if the war lasts two years England may become bankrupt. How can England, or any other country, afford to expend twenty million dollars a day and at the end of two years try to recover its world trade or reestablish its commerce and rehabilitate itself and its people? The markets of the world at the ending of the war will be torn down and cheap labor will be forced on the workers of every civilized country so that they can help to pay the expenses of this awful catastrophe now obtaining in Europe and Asia. The hours of labor established by the French workers union two years ago have been totally set aside and instead of a forty-hour week, they are now working fifty-two and fifty-six hours and will soon be working sixty hours per week, to meet the demands of a nation engaged in war and in danger of destruction. The trade unionists of England are alarmed and recently held a conference with the leaders of the French Labor Movement, endeavoring to plan some method of procedure to protect the English workers; or let us put it another way—fearing that war will also cause the destruction of the conditions which labor enjoys in that country similar to what has happened in France. Does anyone who has any sense believe that the economic conditions of the United States can be preserved and that union Labor wages can continue to obtain here if the world is flooded with cheaply manufactured products and our country invaded by the labor of nations driven to destruction by war expenditures?

For these reasons and many other reasons we must have a settlement of the division within the ranks of Labor, even though we run the risk of bringing on ourselves unpleasant criticism from those who stand in the way of peace, and whose own selfish interests, because they fear the

stability of their own positions, spurs them on to continue the division amongst the organized workers.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, in addition to the above reasons why unity should prevail, has its own special interests involved. We are caught between two fires, between the two contending parties, the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. We haul in and out of every plant and corporation. We must preserve and protect and carry out our contracts. Many organizations on both sides are continually requesting us to lend them help here and there. The multitudes on both sides are the best of trade unionists. We find it very embarrassing to have to refuse, but the very life of our organization in some instances is in danger. Very often the conflict or stoppage of work is due to misunderstandings and disputes between the two rival factions. You will understand by this that we have more serious reasons for demanding a settlement than has the representative of a small union whose few members sit at their benches inside some shop and look out of the window, and whose total membership in their International Union would be perhaps less than ten thousand members. A man inside a shop, protected, has much less to contend with than the truck driver entering every kind of establishment and driving over the streets and roads of our country, and being in continuous contact and association with the rank and file of the trade unionists on both sides of the controversy. Having signed a contract with a master truckman, we guarantee and are obliged, and in some places bonded, to carry out that contract, even though some Pee Wee whose organization has almost withered away to nothing is displeased because we do not stop work immediately and pull him out of a hole that he has gotten into without consulting us or anyone else, and often through his inability and lack of diplomacy. We have been requested to stop our trucks from delivering, thereby violating our signed contract, in concerns and places of business where the union involved never had a member, never had an agreement, but where it happened to decide that in order to organize the inside men they would picket the plant. This is true of both sides in this division of labor.

To the officers and members of our Union, and to our employers, we say that we intend to continue our efforts to protect your interests to the very end, regardless of the displeasure of some of the new volunteers in the Labor Movement who are doing everything to pull it down now and who never did much to build it up. The International Brotherhood of Teamsters a few years ago had less than fifty thousand members, working under any kind of conditions. Today they have a paid up membership of much over four hundred thousand, with very close to five thousand signed union shop contracts with employers throughout the nation. This condition has not been brought about entirely by accident, but somewhat by planning and exercising care and strategy, and by fulfilling our obligations and our word of honor to members, employers, and to the public.

THIS is the time of year when we have so many agents calling on our local unions encouraging them to get up a year book or some other form of advertising. The agent promises the local union that they will take care of the printing and do all the work of soliciting, etc., and then they will pay the local union thirty-three per cent, or perhaps fifty per cent, of the entire receipts.

I can honestly say that some of the slickest individuals I have ever

met have been engaged in this kind of business. Usually the local union gets less than twenty per cent, and sometimes they have a tough time getting that, and for this amount of money they allow their name to be peddled and used to all their friends by "solicitors." In other words, the agent makes any kind of a promise, and very often many kinds of threats, to a business man unless the business man gives him an ad in the year book or souvenir program. A small percentage of soliciting of this kind of business may be on the level, but ninety per cent of it is shady and suspicious and does not have a tendency to bring either honor or credit to the local union. This International office could have any kind and every kind of advertising from union concerns with which it does business, if it descended to that level of accepting paid ads. Can you imagine all the tire companies that would like to have the good will of our four hundred thousand truck drivers? Or those that manufacture grease and oil and gasoline? And then we have the distilleries that would pay any price for a page ad in our Journal. And so on down the line, with all the innumerable articles that our members could favor if we only placed an ad in our Journal. We do not like this business and we do not want it, and that's the reason for asking our local unions to refrain from the so-called year book as much as possible. This International Union has many friends with whom it does business in the manufacturing line. Our members go everywhere and haul everything. We do not want to ask those friends to contribute to the support of our monthly magazine, and thereby to our International Union. We want our members to do this, and they are doing it, and there can be no suspicion cast on our International Union in connection with this advertising game. We understand there have been a few "scalpers" around, with some credentials that are not authentic, soliciting advertising under the pretext that the International Union sanctions such procedure, in reference to some local unions that are running some kind of a dance, an anniversary celebration, or something else. We are not stating emphatically here that local unions are forbidden to run advertising in connection with such affairs, but we state that it is not helpful and that we do not like the procedure. We state further, most strongly, that local unions engaging in this must not use the name of the International Union or any of its officers or organizers in any way, shape or manner, and local unions should so instruct and inform their solicitors when they engage in this kind of business. If we find this command or order is disobeyed we shall take the proper procedure to discipline the local union, even to the extent of refunding moneys obtained thus, under what we consider would be false pretenses.

IT IS our opinion that the trade agreements which have been favored by President Roosevelt and strongly advocated by Secretary of State Cordell Hull, are a help to our country, our government, and especially to our International Organization. Trade agreements are not free trade, as has been insinuated by political leaders who differ with the Administration because of political affiliations. Trade agreements, as is stated by some Labor men in Washington, are not throwing down the walls or barriers of tariff and establishing a condition which they say will have a tendency to break down the wage scales of American workers. For instance, there are some printing trades organizations that claim that a good deal of our American printing has been sent to Europe, the work done there and brought back here again, and all this done for less than it would cost to

have the same printing done in America. The reports of the Department of State and of Commerce show, we are informed, that for every dollar that we in this country expended to purchase foreign made printing, that is in competition with our goods or our manufactured products, Europe has purchased from five to ten dollars' worth of the same products. Another example: four hundred thousand tons of coal similar to anthracite, came into this country from Russia in one year. In the same year our country exported to other countries thirteen million tons of coal. We cannot expect other countries to buy this enormous amount of coal from us, which is mined by union miners and loaded by union longshoremen, and Railroad Union men, unless our country expends some money or purchases something from those countries. I am informed that the trade agreements in nearly every instance give the United States the better part of the bargain and that it is entirely and distinctly different from any such thing as free tariff or free trade. At any rate, speaking for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, in which we are primarily interested, the delivery of foreign goods, such as coal and other products, has increased our hauling in the different ports of our country. It has created trucking, and after all we are as deeply interested in increasing our work or protecting our work as other unions are in protecting theirs. We are also of the opinion that the trade agreement, in which there is only admitted to our country some of the things that we need in exchange for the purchase of some of the surpluses we have, that this so-called trade agreement creates a better understanding between the nations with which we enter the trade agreements, and that a feeling of good will and closer relationship has been established as a result of the trade agreements. We have enormous surpluses in our country, especially of agricultural products, and unless we can find a market for those surpluses in other countries under trade agreements, then you can rest assured the surpluses will continue to obtain and multiply, thereby reducing the income of those engaged in the production of those products. If we can sell fifty thousand automobiles in France under a trade agreement, we can very easily agree to purchase from France five thousand rolls of silk, or some such product. We cannot help thinking that there is some political prejudice and some personal feeling predicated the opposition to the trade agreements. We can fully understand that some organizations may feel it their duty to protect their own employment as much as possible, even to the extent of injuring other organizations and trades.

There is another side to this question. If we expect to sell our surpluses to European countries, which we must do in order to have any such thing as prosperity in our own country, then we must give them some money to purchase those surpluses from us, and the only way those countries can have the money is for us to buy some of the things that they have in surplus. Before Czechoslovakia was taken over by the Germans there was an enormous quantity of ladies' shoes coming to this country, some directly from that country and others through France. There were certain kinds of shoes coming that we could not produce in this country, I am informed, because over there they have the skins from certain animals, such as innumerable young goats, which are not in our country, and those skins being cured into several kinds, qualities and colors of kid leathers, they are able to produce certain kinds of ladies' shoes, especially for evening wear, which we could not very easily duplicate in our country. This statement can be verified by the purchasers of ladies' shoes in any

of the large stores of our country, such as Marshall Field in Chicago.

We have at the present time elevators, or storehouses, containing millions of bushels of wheat which we cannot use in our country and which Europe has no money to pay for even if they were willing to buy same. The question confronting the American people is: How are they going to purchase these surpluses if they are impoverished? We believe that consistent trade agreements, in which it is provided that we can sell much more than we are required to buy and in which we will purchase only by agreement some of the things that are not highly competitive with our country, and in which we can establish a better feeling and understanding with those nations with whom we enter into trade agreements—we are of the opinion that that is the policy for our government to pursue, and we trust that the Congress in this session will pass laws empowering our government to continue endeavoring to establish trade agreements.

AS A RESULT of articles published in the January issue of the monthly magazine of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the Editor has received thousands of letters from members, not only of our Union but of many other labor organizations, commending him on the statements contained in the articles. The article most referred to was that one dealing with "peace in the labor movement." The Associated Press, the Scripps-Howard papers, and the International Labor Press carried editorials and other favorable comment on the subject, and commended the Editor for his expressions and the clarity and fearlessness of his opinions as contained in the editorial. Many columnists and special writers also referred to it. We publish below an editorial which appeared on page 8 of the January 15 issue of the daily *Boston Herald*, one of the oldest and most conservative newspapers in New England. This is a sample of the editorials appearing in thousands of other newspapers:

"LABOR'S ONLY HOPE IS IN UNITY"

The ending of the great American labor split is long overdue. "Reaction has set in. The only hope for labor is in unity. Less than one dozen men on both sides are responsible for the division of 8,000,000 organized workers." The rank and file everywhere must "rise up and demand by public expressions and mass meetings that the AFL and the CIO shall get together and end their fight. This is a critical time for the labor movement in the United States and in the history of the world when civilization seems to be in serious danger."

Who says these things? Some enemy of organized labor, of course! No; labor leaders themselves are saying them. The largest union in the AFL is the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Its president is Daniel J. Tobin. In his own union's publication he uses all the language cited above and much more to the same effect. The national labor relations act is the "greatest piece of progressive legislation ever enacted in behalf of labor." It is now in danger. Why? Because nineteen in every twenty complaints brought against the NLRB arise from squabbles, wrangles and downright battles within labor itself. The public has long been disgusted with the spectacle. No wonder a reaction has set in.

To exactly the same effect, a New York city local of a union affiliated with the AFL, having 16,500 members, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, went on record on Saturday for peace. Thousands of

locals all over the country are doing the same thing, said they, and their statement included caustic references to William Green and John L. Lewis.

Are Senator Norris and Mayor LaGuardia enemies of organized labor? They sponsored the anti-injunction law which labor highly prized. Both of them have spoken their minds with stern emphasis respecting the present unlovely spectacle of a civil war of labor. The mayor told the New York CIO convention that continued strife militates against the sincere employer who "wants to co-operate with labor" and "plays right into the hands of the scheming unfair employer who seeks to set one group against the other to defeat both." From this disunity, he declared, the Wagner act has suffered immeasurably. To the same effect the senator blamed labor's leadership for the continuance of dissension.

What does the public think about this situation? The American Institute of Public Opinion furnishes an answer. The Gallup poll a month ago found that with three-quarters of the people favoring the principles of labor unionism the "overwhelming majority" wanted the feud to be "patched up" as a help both for business and for labor. The investigators found moreover that "more than 90 per cent" of the labor unionists interviewed themselves were strong for peace.

When before has the country witnessed such a fight of giant factions, and when has the country been so willing to say "a plague on both your houses?" The continuance of this struggle is the greatest peril that labor confronts. The only way to end it may well be that proposed by Mr. Tobin. The tyranny of labor leaders has long been a bane of unionism. If there is no other way—get rid of Mr. Tobin's "dozen."

THE DECISION of Mr. Landis of the Harvard Law School in the case of Harry Bridges was no news to anyone. As a matter of fact several of our people had written me from San Francisco that Harry Bridges would not be deported or would not be proven beyond the question of a doubt to be a Communist. In other words, all the breaks were given to the accused. Mr. Landis, who is somewhat of a progressive, was selected because of his tendencies in that direction. According to the finding of Mr. Landis in this case, before you are proven a Communist you have to admit you are a Communist. Apparently all you have to do now is to deny that you are a Communist and then the burden of proof is on the government, if we are to follow the Landis decision. Bear this in mind: we are not disputing the decision. We are simply wondering how the government, under such a decision, could ever prove that anyone was a Communist unless the person admits he is a member of the Communist Party. And as we understand it from ex-Communists who have made and written statements, they are permitted, instructed and requested by the chieftains of the order located in Russia and elsewhere, to deny their membership in the Communist Party if necessary, especially in the United States. It appears now that if you deny you are a Communist and you are an alien or an ex-citizen, you cannot be proven a Communist to satisfy the government. If you are a citizen you can admit that you are a Communist and that you believe in Communistic principles and theories but because free speech and free press is guaranteed in the Constitution, the government cannot interfere with your beliefs. It is like the old story of "Heads I win, tails you lose." And there you are.

But the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in its convention in Portland, Oregon, in 1935, visualized this condition and inserted in its constitution a clause which takes care of that kind of interpretation of membership in the Communist Party. That clause reads as follows:

"No member of the Communist Party shall be allowed to hold membership or be admitted to membership in any Local Union of the International Organization. If by false statements such individual has obtained membership he shall be expelled. It is not necessary that the individual charged with membership in the Communist Party admit his membership in said party. If the Local Union Executive Board, by majority vote, are satisfied by the evidence presented that the individual is a member of the Communist Party or any branch of the Communist Party, the Local Executive Board shall have the power to expel such individual after he has obtained a proper trial in accordance with our laws, from the Local Executive Board."

Some of the thugs who testified at the Bridges trial should be deported or imprisoned. The detective from Portland, Oregon, did not help the government. He was one of those who casts his voice against any labor official. Bridges got a real million-dollar publicity decision.

THE Labor Movement is not ungrateful even though we sometimes think so. The writer of this article has found loyalty and confidence, respect and approval, during the past thirty-five years amongst the membership of our Union. He has paid nothing for this loyalty except service and performing those acts which he pledged himself to perform. You can obtain the same loyalty by doing that which is right in a decent way, not by boasting, bluffing, threatening, or trying to impose your self-importance on your associates and members. Of course I suffer and get discouraged because of the actions of some individuals within our Union, but it was ever thus within the Labor Movement as within the Church and other great bodies that have endeavored to promote civilization and well being. The scoundrels who commit illegal acts and get their names and those of their unions in the papers are our greatest enemies. The newspapers headline everything they can to smear us, and those who help the newspapers by engaging in wrongful actions are a disgrace and an injury to us. The millions of things that we do to help our members and their families, increasing wages, making better homes, promoting education, obtaining liberty and freedom for our large membership—those things are never mentioned in the newspapers. But if some rowdy member of ours commits an illegal act, that's news that is published in glaring headlines by the newspapers of the nation which are controlled and owned by the capitalists of the nation. Talk about freedom of the press and freedom of speech! There is no freedom of the press, because you cannot get into the newspapers anything constructive or helpful to the Labor Movement. Those who pay for the advertising don't like to read in the newspapers about the favorable things done, and the great good accomplished by the Labor Movement, or the benefits derived from membership in that Movement. Don't tell me that the press is not for sale by purchasing large advertising space. If you do anything, therefore, to make headlines for the newspapers by committing or participating, through

your union activities, in disgraceful, unlawful or illegal acts, or if you are an officer, by doing things in your private life that are illegal and unlawful, then you are an enemy of our Movement.

I hope to see the day when the International Constitution will contain a clause that any man convicted of crime within our Movement, after a fair trial, shall stand expelled from the organization. Of course I fully understand that there is injustice sometimes in the courts, but there is also justice in the courts, and the Labor Movement is too precious—its victories have been won by the blood of men who have made it what it is—to be gambled off or destroyed or disgraced or brought into ill repute by the actions of individuals.

— • —

IT IS with sincere regret that we announce the fact that Steve Sumner, one of the oldest officers of our union in Chicago and one of the faithful founders of Local 753, Milk Drivers, was defeated for re-election by the membership, as was also Robert Fitchie. Both of these men served for many years with honor and credit to themselves. There were some other faithful officers also defeated for re-election. This is a democracy and the membership have the right to select whom they desire to represent them. We cannot, however, forget the men who served in the vanguard of this organization in the days when it was struggling for its existence, and we have only the kindest remembrances, which we shall always treasure, of the faithful service they rendered to the writer of this article in carrying on the work of the International Union. Both of these men, of course, had served for a long time and were getting along in years. But whether they had served either a long term or a short term it is the privilege of all members in good standing and in accordance with our Constitution, to aspire to any office, local or national, within the gift of the organization. I only hope and pray that those men who have been selected to fill the places of those retired officers will render equally faithful service as did their predecessors. I know that the officers who are retiring in Local 753 love their union so much that they will render every aid and assistance to the men who have taken their places.

There are very few now alive who can remember when Steve Sumner was chosen as an officer of Local 753, around 1907. He had been a member many years before that. In those dark days the local union was left penniless by a man who had served as Secretary-Treasurer, but with the aid of Steve Sumner, Bob Fitchie, and several others headed by the ever loving, faithful, deceased Bill Neer, they brought up the Milk Wagon Drivers' Union to be one of the most influential, powerful, and most thoroughly organized unions in America. There will perhaps be no monuments erected for those men as time goes on, but because of the work and the service of the men who were pioneers, not only in the Milk Wagon Drivers, but in other local unions, they shall have erected to their memory and for their service and sacrifice a monument in the hearts of those whom they served and whose families and homes were made brighter and better through their eternal watching and working as officers of their union.

The election of Local 753 was by secret ballot; an all-day election, supervised over by the President of the Joint Council, who is a General Organizer and Vice-President of the International Union, Leslie G. Goudie. Everything was fair, open and above board. Not the slightest protest could be or was entered as a result of the election.

In saying "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" to those officers who are retiring, we say to the newly-elected officers, "Do thou likewise. Serve faithfully your people who have chosen you to lead them and to represent them, and you shall have the backing and the help of the International Union in every way possible, in accordance with our laws." "He also serves who only stands and waits."

I WAS in Boston during the Christmas holidays and indeed it was somewhat changed over the days when I drove a truck through those narrow streets. It was the same weather, cold, frosty, ice and snow, and I rejoiced that the good old horses we used to drive were not slipping and falling as they did in the old days. Boston is an interesting and attractive city. Union men there are exceptionally proud of their membership. They have splendid organizations chartered by this International Union. There is very little rivalry from the C. I. O., as it has not been allowed to become seriously important. There is, however, a great deal of unemployment, especially amongst our people. New England does not have the commerce and industry that it used to have some forty years ago, and the port of Boston, although coming back slightly in recent years, has been robbed by the great port of New York of a great part of its commerce and shipping.

As soon as I get to Boston I am called up by many old-time friends, which brings back pleasant remembrances. Then the information secretly oozes out that I am in town and there is a continuous round of appeals for help, to find jobs or do something else. The only time I wish I was a millionaire is to be able to help the needy when I see so much suffering and poverty, especially around the Christmas holidays. It is difficult for me to make our people understand that I have never used the office of General President for asking personal favors from political office holders. If I were to pursue that course, whatever little influence I have would be wasted and I would be unable to promote helpful legislation and do other things that are necessary for the membership of our International Union. No International Officer is justified in asking personal favors either for himself or his friends, or using his office for that purpose. Whatever influence an International Labor Official has is owned by the International Union by whom he is elected and employed and by whom he is paid his salary. Getting a job or two for friends means nothing, and when the political office holders in power do you personal favors they feel they have fulfilled their obligation, and when it comes to something serious and important in the line of legislation for your International Union or for the Labor Movement in general, then your welcome is worn out and your power and influence is used up. Of course I deeply and seriously regret to see anyone in financial trouble or in some legal trouble. For instance, I suffer when I hear of the head of a family who has been sentenced to a term in prison, and that's the reason I continually advocate observance of the laws, because there is very little that can be done after individuals get into trouble and, as stated above, those who use their influence in individual cases are not complying with their obligation and are not doing their duty to their International Union. I want to see legislation enacted to protect the workers against prosecution and persecution for acts of which under the present laws they may be found guilty, such acts as are committed sometimes without thought by honest men who are not criminals at heart, when they are endeavoring to win a strike in order that

they might advance the living conditions of themselves and their families. We have made wonderful strides in legislation for Labor during the past forty years but we are not through yet. There is plenty of work to be done, and unfortunately some of the legislation that we have been able to place on the statute books of the nation has been jeopardized by the division within the ranks of Labor. We must, however, endeavor to enact other constructive laws for the protection of the men and women of our country who work. In the field of legislation we can be successful only because of our unity and our economic strength, which economic strength can be demonstrated at the ballot box.

SOME officers in local unions and joint councils certainly go to extremes in hair-splitting on our Union laws. Sometime ago I published in our official journal a statement saying in effect that when a man is nominated for office in a local union or joint council there should be some information as to whether or not he would accept the office, either before the meeting or at the meeting, so that if he refused to accept someone else could be nominated. This statement has been construed by over-efficient, hair-splitting, extremely important, technical individuals as meaning that no one can be nominated unless he is present at the meeting. It is well that men be present at the meeting in which they are nominated, but if it is impossible for them to be present no one can be required to do the impossible. For instance, if a man is tied up in some serious business pertaining to his local union, in a conference with employers, when the nominations take place, his first consideration is the conference. Or if a man is sick in a hospital after going through an operation, and he is holding office at that time and on the evening of the nominations he is still lying in the hospital, if he has never said that he was not a candidate for re-election why should he be declared as ineligible because he is not at the meeting?

Recently we had a case that has been called to my attention in which the International President called to the General Headquarters a local secretary-treasurer and business agent who lived at a distance of six hundred miles from Headquarters. The Joint Council meeting and nomination of officers took place that evening. This man was a Vice-President of the Joint Council, and the President of the Council ruled that because he was not present he could not be nominated, although he had held the office of Vice-President, and had never said he was not a candidate for re-election, and was away from the city on the call of the International President. We find that at that same meeting of the Joint Council a motion was made and seconded that no one could be nominated that evening unless they were present at the meeting. We have some reason to believe—and I hope we are wrong in our analysis—that the motion was prompted in order to technically rule out this individual who had been Vice-President. There has been no appeal made to the General President from this decision, and if there was the General President, in the interest of the International Union and in accordance with our laws as we understand and interpret them, would rule that such procedure is illegal and eventually destroys those who go to such extremes. But the unfortunate part of it is that meanwhile the members suffer.

The most dangerous trait in any officer is to carry his spite or ill feeling so far as to allow his jealousy to so blind him that he will do an injury to an efficient officer, thereby injuring the membership, and also violate his obligation that he will never do an injustice to a fellow member.

RECENTLY I have had a circular sent to me with a card signed by a local representative of one of our unions, undoubtedly sent out by the firm whose products this representative was favoring. The product happened to be a certain brand of whiskey, which the local representative requested all of our members to patronize.

In the first place we do not care to be asking our people to patronize any kind of whiskey or any kind of beer, and in the next place we have some suspicion about such procedure. There are several distilleries that are unionized; at any rate, there are several whose products are hauled by our members, but it is not our duty to sell the products of those distilleries, nor to ask our people to favor them. When we are compelled to take a stand we notify our people and friends that a certain distillery is unfair to our organization. I have had many whiskey salesmen endeavor to get before our Executive Board, who claimed they had the only brand of union-made whiskey. Of course we do not permit such procedure, nor do we allow our name, or the name of our International Union, on any brand, because we would not favor one brand above another and any business agent or local union that allows a circular to go out bearing his name and recommending any brand of whiskey or of beer, is not properly representing the principles and purposes of the organization, nor is he holding up the honor and integrity of the International Union. I repeat, all you are required to do is to advertise and make our members and their friends acquainted with the concerns that are unfair to our organization. I am not preaching prohibition in the columns of this Journal, but I repeat, we do not care to advise our members or the public as to any such thing as good brands or fair brands of whiskey or beer. Let the members use their own judgment in matters of this kind, and it is up to the local union to acquaint the members with those that are against us in this trade.

We desire to advise our members, however, that during the hours of employment patronizing any kind of intoxicating liquor is dangerous, not only for the individual driver who partakes of the liquor, but the lives of the public are in danger.

UNTIL such time as the Supreme Court decides in the cases that are now pending what is conspiracy in restraint of trade, etc., it would be well for our people to beware and not violate the law. For instance, when you have trouble with an employer who manufactures products it would be well that you refrain from saying, "don't purchase the products of this company." You can accomplish the same thing by saying, "This company is unfair to our International Union and is hiring non-union drivers and helpers." That's all the workers desire to know. Strange as it may seem, there is a certain prejudice in the courts about using the word "boycott."

Secondary boycotts are permitted in some states, while in others they are considered illegal. Avoid the word "boycott."

Don't allow your name or the name of one of your officers or your local union to be used to endorse a certain product, or a certain manufacturer.

IN THE Federal Court in the District of Columbia before Judge Adkins, recently, a decision was rendered which may have a beneficial effect on Labor insofar as interpreting the rights of Labor is concerned. The case was rather a peculiar case and a very unusual one. As briefly as possible I will endeavor to explain the case, which was as follows:

A master baker named Gundersheimer, doing business in Philadelphia and Washington and employing in both places union inside workers and union drivers, decided to ship over the road from Philadelphia to Washington certain manufactured bakery products, to be distributed to his trade in Washington by his drivers in that city who were members of Local Union No. 33. The wage scale for inside workers, members of the Bakery Workers' International Union, in Philadelphia, was lower than the wage scale for the same class of workers in Washington, D. C. This was due to the fact that the inside workers in Philadelphia had not organized until the early stages of the NRA, while the inside workers and the drivers in Washington have been organized for many, many years, and have thereby increased their wages and bettered their working conditions far beyond those of Philadelphia. The purpose of shipping those goods by truck from Philadelphia to Washington by the employer was undoubtedly and undeniably because it was cheaper to do that than to have the same goods manufactured in Washington. The drivers, members of our Local Union No. 33, had a union shop agreement with this concern and their wages or commissions would, of course, be just the same on those goods coming in from Philadelphia as if they were manufactured in Washington. But there is an old understanding which has existed for many years between Local No. 33 and the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' Local Union in Washington, that wherever one has trouble, the other will cease work to help them. Therefore, when the goods were shipped into Washington and the Bakery Workers' Union called a strike against this firm in Washington, D. C., our members working for this employer in Washington refused to handle the goods, although they had no grievance themselves with the employer. The result was that, of course, it was useless for the employer to ship the goods in from Philadelphia or any other place, because they could not be distributed, and unless you can distribute manufactured bakery products, or any other products, there is no use in manufacturing them or in shipping them to a certain point. All manufacturers need consumers or purchasers of their products in order to succeed or continue in business.

Because the employer believed that he was being treated unjustly due to the fact that the goods shipped in from Philadelphia were made by union bakers and handled by union drivers, and that he employed only union bakers in Washington and union drivers, he claimed he had lost considerable business because of the refusal of our drivers to handle those Philadelphia union-made products in the city of Washington; and he, therefore, brought suit for three times the amount of his losses, which he claimed ran into the thousands of dollars, and charged a conspiracy to injure him by the two unions and sued both unions for damages under the Sherman Anti-Trust

Law. Joseph Padway was the attorney for the unions. The case had been awaiting trial or hearing for at least seven or eight months. After the opening statement by the plaintiff, Joseph A. Padway, general counsel, moved to dismiss the case. Judge Adkins, in a verbal ruling from the bench, held that the alleged conspiracy was not unlawful and that the interstate commerce affected by the union's action was negligible. In other words, the motion of Mr. Padway was sustained. There was no evidence taken and Federal Judge Adkins ruled that the alleged conspiracy was not unlawful, and he further stated that the effect on interstate commerce was negligible or insignificant or amounted to practically nothing, and sustained the motion by Mr. Padway. The employer has appealed to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia and it will go from there, undoubtedly, to the full bench of the Supreme Court. We only hope and trust that the decision of Judge Adkins will be sustained by the higher courts, but there is no certainty as to that. Judge Adkins held that "bakers and salesmen of a local company might lawfully strike to prevent the firm from importing bakery products which might endanger the economic welfare of the employees." This last statement is quoted from the *Washington Evening Star* of January 12, 1940. If Federal Judge Adkins is sustained by the Supreme Court, then Assistant United States Attorney General Thurman Arnold and his theories, his prosecutions and indictments charging Labor Unions as being in conspiracy in restraint of trade under the Sherman Anti-Trust Law—all his arguments will melt into nothingness. Remember we say if Judge Adkins is sustained.

Mr. Thurman Arnold has indicted our General Organizer Thomas O'Brien and some of our business agents in a Federal Court in the District of Columbia on the grounds that we had no right to strike on certain building projects in the City of Washington, because we were striking not for wages, hours or working conditions, but we were striking over a jurisdictional dispute. Our request of the contractors and our agreement signed by some of them, specified that "none but members of our union shall be employed to haul materials on this job," or some such similar language meaning the same thing. On the jobs in question where our men refused to haul other building material there were employed members of the Engineers' Union who were driving ready-mixed concrete trucks, and the jurisdiction over this work had been awarded to us by all the courts of Labor. Our contract in Washington with all the contractors contained the above quoted paragraph, and because some of the contractors did not abide by it, the jobs were struck, by a vote of the members, and other materials were not delivered, nor was refuse or excavation hauled away. We think that in that instance, in which Mr. Arnold, representing the Anti-Trust Division of the Department of Justice, obtained indictments, we have a much better case than we had in the case just referred to, in which Judge Adkins clearly said that the drivers and salesmen and the bakery and confectionery workers were perfectly justified in refusing to handle even union goods manufactured in other cities if they were brought into their territory, and the unions believed their economic conditions in Washington would be destroyed or seriously injured.

IN ONE way Labor is exceptionally lucky to have the present legal questions arise, or to have Labor's rights challenged by Assistant United States Attorney General Thurman Arnold while we have a somewhat friendly judiciary. If the several cases of conspiracy and violations of the Sherman

Anti-Trust Law now pending are to be considered at all, we might as well have them considered now by the courts. If Labor loses what it believes to be its rights and its freedom and the government wins after the highest courts have spoken, then we shall proceed immediately to have the laws further amended and clarified guaranteeing protection of the rights of Labor. We are exceptionally lucky that these questions are being tested at this time, because we have a judiciary that is somewhat friendly towards Labor in the Supreme Court of the United States. What I should say is that we have men on the Supreme Court bench now who are human, who understand the meaning of the word "freedom," and who believe that Labor is not a "commodity or an article of commerce," but that it is the life blood of Americans.

Can You Answer This One?

Captain "Bob" Bartlett, the sturdy old navigator who accompanied Peary in his search for the North Pole more than 40 years ago, dropped into Washington this week and delivered this meaty message:

"Eskimos ask me why the rest of the world sends teachers and missionaries up to Greenland to teach them love and peace, when back home the white men are dropping bombs on each other."

When Captain "Bob" departed to visit his 88-year-old mother in Newfoundland, he hadn't received a satisfactory answer.

Charity Should Begin at Home

One can't pick up a newspaper without finding columns devoted to projects to raise money for the Poles, the Finns, the Chinese, and other hungry and war-terrorized peoples of the Old World. Society leaders are particularly active in these enterprises, and it has even been suggested that large sums be advanced out of the public Treasury.

But what about the cold and hungry millions in our own country? Would it be out of order to suggest that "charity begins at home"? What would we think of a father who ran about caring for the neighbors' children while his own offspring remained neglected at home?

It is very noticeable that many of those most conspicuous in the move-

ments to relieve distress in foreign lands are now, and for years have been, insisting that Uncle Sam must balance his budget without regard to the effect on the unemployed.

A striking example is to be found in certain big daily newspapers which for weeks before Christmas called on their readers to contribute generously to the "neediest cases" or to supply shoes to the children of the poverty-stricken.

Practically every one of those papers has applauded the efforts of the champions of "economy" to reduce appropriations for the relief of suffering here at home.

Our Lord immortalized the Samaritan who turned aside to extend a helping hand to the man who lay beaten and bleeding beside the Jericho road. But there is nothing in the Gospels to indicate that the Samaritan had overlooked the needs of those of his own household who had a more immediate claim on his generosity.

As this is written, snow covers the ground in Washington and the thermometer hovers around zero. Thousands of men and women and little children in the nation's capital lack proper food, clothing and shelter. Similar conditions exist in every city in the land and in rural communities, too.

Until these, our brethren, are fed and clothed and housed, how absurd it is to suggest that we should play Santa Claus to the rest of the world!—*Labor.*

Labor and Racial Prejudice

In the fight for Democracy in which we are now engaged, it is well to remember that, strictly speaking, there is no such person as a "native" American. Even the Indian is an importation from Asia. Some of us may boast of our "American ancestry," but if we traced our lineage back far enough, we'd run up against a "foreigner" who came here from some other country. And this applies to the "Sons" and "Daughters" of patriotic societies who sometimes think they have the right to lord it over the rest of us.

Since 1820 over 38,000,000 immigrants landed on our shores or crossed our borders. No country in the world has received a greater variety of people from such widely different national and racial origins than has the United States. The remarkable thing is that they have been welded into a single political, economic and social system. It is natural that in many cases foreign-born citizens should hold in affection the memories and relationships of the old country, and there is no doubt that many of the heritages of the fatherland may help enrich their adopted country, but their first loyalty should be to America. We instinctively resent the building up of a hyphenated group which, in a superior fashion, holds supreme allegiance to some other country, even though accepting citizenship in our own.

However, there are millions of American citizens who came to this country because conditions in the country in which they were born were far from desirable. They came here to find freedom from oppression and tyranny. It is natural that they should become enthusiastic in their devotion to the newly-found freedom of America. And among them are some of our most loyal Americans.

It has been proved by careful tests that where environment and social conditions are the same, no racial group can claim mental superiority.

Furthermore, scientists have clearly shown that "man, everywhere, is basically and fundamentally similar," and that his mental and moral conditions are determined not by race, so much as by the social conditions and opportunities by which he is surrounded. Under certain conditions even his physical appearance may be completely changed.

In America we have demonstrated that the mingling of many different elements has developed religious, social and cultural tolerance. There is no agency or institution which has been more effective in this direction than Organized Labor.

The pledge of the trade unionist "never to discriminate against a fellow worker on account of creed, color or nationality" expresses a fundamental principle in the labor movement. Here and there it may have failed in this respect, but this pledge has been basic in the attitude of one worker toward another. Workers have come to know each other better through their common interests, which they discuss in their labor halls. And because of these common interests they have become more tolerant of each other. Organized Labor may thus fairly claim to be one of the greatest forces in this country in breaking down racial prejudice and in building up the whole life of the nation.—*Dr. Charles Stelzle.*



Retailers' Federation Hits War Profiteers

Washington, D. C.—Confronted with nation-wide reports that profiteering in food prices was increasing, the board of trustees of the American Retail Federation urged its members to "do all in their power to limit the charges for distribution service to the maximum required to cover normal operating expenses and a normal rate of net profit."—*News Letter.*

DID you ever notice that the fellow who says nothing, who quietly listens and is unassuming, is the fellow who, when danger surrounds you, stands closest and is willing to risk all that he has in defense of the principles which you have enunciated? This does not mean the man who keeps silent to hide his ignorance.

DON'T make the mistake of believing "they can't get along without you." There is no one so important that his place cannot be filled. The least important individuals that I have met in our unions and in public life are the ones that usually consider themselves the most necessary, when as a matter of fact those that are around them are wishing they could get rid of them.

FRIENDSHIP is the most powerful thing in life, especially in our Labor Movement, but friendship that is purchased with wrong-doing or illegal favors is a curse. You can't purchase real, true, faithful friends. Your actions, your manhood, your fair unselfishness, your life's honesty and your sense of justice in your every act—that's what makes friends—real, sincere friends.

NO REAL union man will question on slightly technical matters the elections recently held in our local unions. A real worker, a true trade unionist, the kind you can depend upon, accepts the decisions of the ballot box in our union elections. Appeals sent here to this office, unless based on fraudulent actions that are beyond the question of a doubt, will not be given consideration. Anyone can accept a decision when he wins, but the best proof of the real man is he who abides by the decision when he loses.

The first time I ran for Business Agent of Local 25, away back in the early years—yes, somewhere around thirty-six or thirty-seven years ago—I was defeated by the machine which then held the power and influence among the truck drivers. I felt happy over the defeat and all my friends helped me to celebrate that evening. The following year I was again a candidate and was elected without any great trouble.

This story is told in order to advise our people, especially those who were defeated candidates, that if they are right, if they have intelligence, if they are faithful, the rank and file will soon find that out and find a place for them in the official family.

Official Magazine of the
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